

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 237867

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE DIA INFO ALGIERS AMMAN BAGHDAD
JERUSALEM KUWAIT MOSCOW TEL AVIV TRIPOLI TUNIS USCINCEUR
FROM BEIRUT DEC 3

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 13684

DEPT PASS CAIRO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, XF

SUBJECT: SPOILING TACTICS OF FEDAYEEN "DIE-HARDS"

REF: BEIRUT 13520 (NOTALA)

1. PFLP WEEKLY AL HADAF CARRIED LEAD EDITORIAL DEC. 1
VIOLENTLY CRITICIZING "WEAKLINGS" AMONG PLO LEADERSHIP
(I.E., 'ARAFAT AND CO.) WHO, "TIRED OF ROAD OF
REVOLUTION" AND ALLEGEDLY EAGER TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME FUTURE
"STRAW-GOVERNMENT" OF PALESTINE, ARE IN PROCESS OF
BETRAYING FEDAYEEN MOVEMENT AND SACRIFICING INTERESTS
OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. DENOUNCING PLO LEADERS AS
UNREPRESENTATIVE OF THEIR FOLLOWERS, HADAF CLAIMED
PLO LEADERSHIP HAS NO RIGHT "DRAG OUR MASSES AND OUR
MOVEMENT" TO FORTHCOMING ME PEACE CONFERENCE. IT
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CALLED FOR "INTERNAL REVOLUTION" WITHIN PLO AGAINST

"ERRONEOUS ATTITUDES" AND "BUREAUCRATIC PRACTICES"
OF CURRENT LEADERSHIP, REJECTION OF ALL PLANS TO
ESTABLISH PALESTINIAN ENTITY IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES,
AND CONTINUATION OF "ARMED STRUGGLES" AGAINST NOT ONLY
ISRAEL BUT ALSO HOLDERS OF "WRONG POLITICAL VIEWS"
WITHIN FEDAYEEN MOVEMENT AND ARAB GOVERNMENTS.

2. WE ALSO NOTE PFLP STATEMENT ISSUED HERE SAME DAY
CLAIMED ITS FORCES HAD AMBUSHED IDF PATROL NEAR
ZARAAIT ON LEBANESE-ISRAELI BORDER, KILLING OR
WOUNDING LATTER'S ENTIRE COMPLEMENT OF 16 MEN.
REGARDLESS OF ACCURACY OF THIS CLAIM (WE GATHER
IDF SPOKESMAN LATER CONFIRMED THAT SOME ACTION HAD
OCCURRED NEAR ZARAIT), RELIABLE LEBANESE ARMY SOURCE
HAS TOLD US THAT WHOLE SERIES OF FEDAYEEN BORDER
PROVOCATIONS HAS TAKEN PLACE IN RECENT DAYS. (SEE DAO BEIRUT
1027.) ARMY IS CONVINCED THESE ACTIONS HAVE BEEN MOUNTED
DELIBERATELY BY DISSIDENT FEDAYEEN ELEMENTS (FROM ALL
ORGANIZATIONS) INTENT ON EMBARRASSING PLO LEADERSHIP
AND DEMONSTRATING THAT FEDAYEEN RANK-AND-FILE ARE
DETERMINED TO CONTINUE "ARMED STRUGGLE" WITH ISRAEL
COME WHAT MAY. AS NOTED REFTTEL, WE BELIEVE KLM
HIJACKING WAS CARRIED OUT WITH SAME OBJECTIVE IN MIND.

3. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT PFLP IS TAKING ORGANIZA-
TIONAL LEAD IN AGITATING AGAINST FATAH "WEAKNESS",
WITH LIKELY SUPPORT OF LIBYAN MONEY AND INFLUENCE
WITH SOME OF SMALLER FEDAYEEN GROUPS SUCH AS PFLP/GC.
HOWEVER, THERE ARE DISSIDENTS AMONG FATAH AND SA'IQA
IN SUFFICIENT NUMBER TO CAUSE LEADERS OF BOTH THESE
KEY ORGANIZATIONS CONSIDERABLE CONCERN, AND TO CAUSE
THEM TO BE VERY CAREFUL IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON
ALGIERS SUMMIT, PLO PARTICIPATION IN PEACE TALKS AND
EVENTUAL CREATION OF INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE.
ROLE OF IRAQ IN THIS OPPOSITION TO FATAH/SA'IQA
LINE IS UNCLEAR, BUT IT IS ASSUMED LOCALLY THAT THAT
CONCERN OVER DISSENT WITHIN PLO, AS WELL AS OVER
GENERALLY NON-COOPERATIVE IRAQI ATTITUDE, LAY BEHIND
SUDDEN TRIP BY PONOMAREV TO BAGHDAD.

BUFFUM

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UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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